CITY OF ST. JOSEPH HEALTH DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL 2019
REPORT 2019







Hello and welcome to the City of St. Joseph Health Department 2019 Annual Report! This report offers an overview of the services and accomplishments the health department achieved during the past calendar year. We continue to serve our area, assuring public safety throughout the entire community by working towards the highest standard of public health for our citizens.

In 2019, partnerships were the key to success: The Urban Mission Project, the Addiction Help Now Opioid Task Force, the Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic, and many ongoing collaborations which enrich our community.

Every division of the health department worked diligently for St. Joseph. Some 2019 highlights include:

- Maintaining and operating effectively within our \$4.5 mil budget
- Completion of the HVAC replacement to Patee Market Health Center and Animal Control & Rescue Shelter
- Emergency preparedness activities, including SEMA Points of Dispensing training
- · Responding to the needs of our community during regional flooding
- Animal Control & Rescue partnership with and revitalization of the Friends of the Shelter Volunteer Program
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) adjusting staff positions to accommodate needs, resume walk-up service, and partnership with Mosaic to reach clients
- Community involvement through various health education programs
- Several public health information campaigns informed the public on opioid addiction awareness, HIV treatment, family communication, improving teen driving outcomes, and more
- Clinic Services developed and adapted services based on community needs
- Promoted Adverse Childhood Experiences education and trauma informed care
- Environmental Public Health Specialists partnered with federal agencies to promote lead education
- Several health department employees were recognized through local and state awards

Public health has been transitioning over the years to a more community-based approach. We appreciate partnerships that have enhanced the work we set out to accomplish. The health department continues to closely monitor the pulse of the community to ensure our programming evolves to address changes. Thank you to our partners and to you for all you do to live healthy!

2019

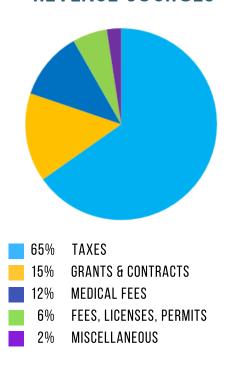
Sincerely,

Debra Bradley, Director

Delra Bradley

FINANCIAL HEALTH 2019

REVENUE SOURCES



A significant portion of the operating budget for the health department is dependent on the acquisition of grants and contracts.

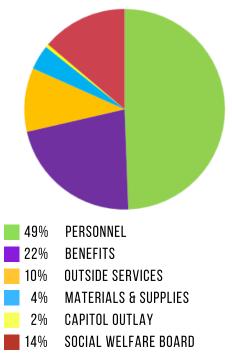
Many of our grants are established at the federal level and pass through the state before reaching local health departments.

The City of St Joseph Health Department receives funding from these sources:

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):

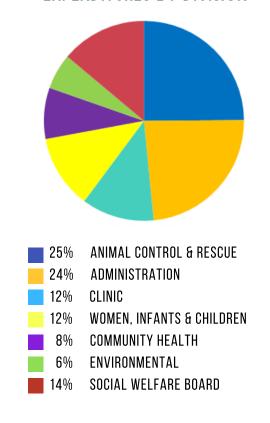
Maternal Child Health Services
Child Care Health Consultation
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA):
Women, Infants, Children (WIC)
Summer Food Service Program for Children
Department of Health and Senior Services/ Health Resources and Services:
Administration HIV Care Formula Grants HIV Case Management
Department of Health and Senior Services Centers for
Disease Control and Prevention:
HIV Prevention Activities
Opioid Crisis Response Program
Public Health Emergency Preparedness
National Association of County and City Health Officials

EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY



*SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD IS NOT A DIVISION OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HOWEVER THESE FUNDS REPRESENT A PORTION OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET

EXPENDITURES BY DIVISION



ADMINISTRATION

Health Administration is located on the second floor at Patee Market Health Center, and it is where the core operations of the department take place. The staff consists of the Director, Assistant Director, Executive Secretary, four Administrative Technicians, a Building Maintenance Technician and a Custodian whose time is divided between Patee Market and Animal Control & Rescue.

Health Administration oversees the budget for the department, building maintenance, program development, personnel management, record retention, invoicing, public information and press releases, and more. Certified Missouri Vital Records (birth and death records) are a staple of the health department. 12,163 copies were issued to qualified applicants in 2019. Administration is also the public information center for the department. We issued 26 press releases in 2019 and were featured in more than 115 local news stories.







In 2019, energy efficiency updates were made at Patee Market Health Center and Animal Control and Rescue. The 25 year old heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system at Patee Market Health Center was no longer efficient or effective. Contractors installed upgrades including all logistical controls, duct work, and variable air volume (VAV) box replacement. Both 50-ton condensers were also replaced

with more efficient units.

MISSION OF MERCY

The health department supported the work of **Missouri Dental Association** bringing **Mission of Mercy** free dental clinic to St. Joseph's Civic Arena. Approximately 500 underserved adults and children received more than \$631,000 worth of dental care for free. More than 500 volunteers, including dental health professionals and community volunteers, gathered at the Civic Arena to provide free oral health services, including 510 cleanings, 734 fillings, 1,228 extractions, and 64 root canals



MISSIONS



URBAN MISSION PROJECT

The health department was invited to partner with Mosaic Life Care in the spring of 2019 in the creation of **Urban Mission Project** (UMP). Mosaic's Community Needs Assessment identified homelessness as a priority in St. Joseph. Mosaic invited The Crossing, Community Action Partnership St. Joe (CAP), Pivotal Point and the St. Joseph Police Department (SJPD) to participate in the UMP as well. The health department oversees the activity of the project with a newly created position that is funded by the partnership. Our Urban Mission Coordinator is the project administrator, evaluating the program and coordinating activity to ensure goals are met.

The Urban Mission Project aims to shelter individuals who are homeless and assist them in breaking down barriers so they can move beyond homelessness. The project has components in place to shield the surrounding neighbors and their property from the collateral consequences of the transient, survivalist lifestyle that often accompanies homelessness.

The Crossing provides 24-hour shelter, an onsite Community Health Worker (CAP), a case worker (Pivotal Point), off-duty officers (SJPD). On-site staff completes assessments, enrolls people in transitional housing, connects people with medical care, increases surveillance and security while also building rapport with surrounding residents and business owners. The UMP opened October 1st and the current phase will span three years.

After the first three months, forty individuals successfully moved into housing or reunited with family. CAP completed 44 assessments and made multiple connections on behalf of the residents. Four individuals applied for placement at Pivotal Point. The St. Joseph Police Department utilized two officers during the months of October and November. In December SJPD surveillance was reduced to one off-duty officer for the four-hour duration, daily. In the first three months they responded to or initiated 675 calls, making 119 arrests. Of the 85 individuals arrested, 43 of them identified as homeless. The number of arrests dropped from 52 in October, to 44 in November and 23 in December. The decrease in arrests is most likely a combination of colder weather resulting in decreased foot traffic and people being aware of the additional police presence in the area. After the first month of operation, neighbors and business owners reported improvements to the area.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES ISSUED	5555
DEATH CERTIFICATES ISSUED	6608
PRESS RELEASES	26
MEDIA NOTICES FROM MISSOURI DHSS	85



NIGHTS SPENT AT THE CROSSINGS SHELTER	4240
WOMEN @ CROSSINGS IN 1ST 3 MO'S	50
MEN @ CROSSINGS IN 1ST 3 MO'S	105
MEDIA NOTICES FROM MISSOURI DHSS	85

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING

The City of St. Joseph Health Department contracts with an emergency response planner who is a Certified Healthcare Emergency Professional (CHEP). The CHEP collaborates with agencies and businesses to ensure our community is prepared for a public health emergency. Primary components of preparedness include: planning for and recovering from emergencies; coordinating an effective response; ensuring people have information to take action; distributing medicines and supplies; expanding medical services to handle large events; and, investigating and identifying health threats.

In 2019, health department staff participated in public health emergency response education organized and taught by our CHEP, held at all-staff meetings and our annual staff retreat. In September, select staff attended points of dispensing (POD) training at State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) in Alabama. Points of Dispensing is the plan to distribute large quantities of medicine and medical supplies to protect the American public in the event of a public health emergency.





ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental Services is located inside Patee Market Health Center, and is comprised of three Environmental Public Health Specialists (EPHS) with oversight provided by the Assistant Health Director

The Environmental Public Health Specialists (EPHS) provide a multitude of services to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the citizens of St. Joseph. In 2019 the three Environmental Public Health Specialists (EPHS) completed 2,176 inspections, combined. They ranged from routine, new facility, complaint-driven, follow-ups, temporary event, educational, and other types of inspections. The EPHS's inspect food, lodging, childcare and tattooing establishments, public and semi-private pools and spas, on-site wastewater treatment systems, provide 24/7 response to disasters involving food and drug products, follow-up on indoor air quality concerns and smoking ordinance complaints, and license tattooing artists among other environmental concerns. The City of St. Joseph Health Department also has a contractual agreement to provide specific environmental services to Holt County, MO.

Basic and Advanced Food Handler Courses are taught by EPHS staff, with the goal of giving attendees a more solid foundation in safe food handling techniques. The courses were completed by 24 students in 2019, expanding food safety practices and regulatory compliance throughout the community.

The Bureau of Childcare of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) contracts with Environmental Services to inspect local childcare facilities. There are approximately 55 licensed childcare facilities throughout St. Joseph and Buchanan County. The centers are inspected by the health department upon request from DHSS; 57 childcare facility inspections were completed in 2019.

TEMPORARY EVENTS WORKED (FOOD)	18
SUMMER FOOD SITES INSPECTED	15
FOOD ESTABLISHMENT RELATED CALLS	554
FOOD COMPLAINT INSPECTIONS	90
TRUCK WRECKS & FIRE RESPONSES	63



CALLS RECEIVED/MISC INFO (NON-FOOD)	485
TATTOO ARTIST'S CARDS ISSUED	11
TEMPORARY TATTOO ARTIST INSPECTIONS	1
INDOOR AIR QUALITY/SMOKING COMPLAINTS	6
HOLT COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HOURS	139



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reached out to the health department and Mayor Bill McMurray to discuss local lead hazards and how we could collaborate to address the risks. St. Joseph is considered a high-risk community for lead hazards due to the age of many of its homes and other structures. In June, the EPA joined the health department, Housing and Urban Development (EPA) and Mayor McMurray to host a press conference for the purpose of announcing new rules surrounding lead testing and the decrease in the actionable lead level that triggers a public health response.









COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Community Health division consists of a supervisor who is also a Case Manager, a Care Coordinator, a Community Health Nurse and two Health Educators, one of whom serves as Public Information Officer

The Case Manager and Care Coordinator serve persons living with HIV across 15 counties in northwest Missouri. The Community Health Nurse tests and treats some sexually transmitted infections (STI's). The Health Educators coordinate outreach in St. Joseph and Buchanan County; also, through a grant with the state of Missouri, HIV/STI health education is provided throughout northwest Missouri.

OFFICE VISITS FOR STI TESTING	301
HIV TESTS ADMINISTERED (SEROLOGY)	231
RAPID HIV TESTS ADMINISTERED IN OUTREACH	322
RAPID HEPATITIS C TESTS ADMINISTERED	272
HEPATITIS VACCINE ADMINISTERED	4
NEWLY DIAGNOSED HIV CLIENTS	2
INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY CASE MANAGEMENT (CM)	87
INDIVIDUALS TRANSFERRING INTO CM	16
CLIENT CONTACTS	907



HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH EVENTS	77
PEOPLE ATTENDING EVENTS	7,920
CONDOM DISTRIBUTION SITES	18
TRANSIT APPLICATIONS	128
COALITION BUILDING/COMMUNITY MTGS	56
SEXUAL HEALTH PROGRAMS	25
ATTENDED SEX HEALTH PROGRAMS	233
GENERAL HEALTH EDUCATION/CLASSES	15
ATTENDED HEALTH ED CLASSES	154

OPIOID CRISIS RESPONSE

The City of St. Joseph Health Department was awarded an Opioid Crisis Response Grant to further efforts to prevent overdose deaths in our



community. The Buchanan County Opioid Task-Force, lead by the health department and supported by grant funds, organized a second regional Opioid Summit held July 23, 2019. The summit expanded on the 2017 event by offering break-out sessions catering to the needs of those professionally and personally affected by the opioid crisis. The task-force promoted Black Balloon Day on March 6th and hosted International Overdose Awareness Day on August 30th on the steps of City Hall in remembrance of lives lost to overdose. In June, grant funding paid for training for 15 people in NWMO (12 in St Joe) to become Certified Peer Specialists. Grant funds supported the certification of several task force members, including health department personnel, to train others on the emergency administration of Narcan and in training courses from Overdose Lifeline, preparing task force members to share information about addiction and its impact in the community.

The grant also funded a marketing campaign to increase awareness of this crisis. Though the grant funds ended in November of 2019, the task-force continues to meet and has planned ahead for sustainability.













HIV/AIDS/STI Testing, Counseling and Education

HIV testing and counseling services were offered onsite and at multiple outreach activities including St. Joe Pride, Missouri Western State University, Northwest Missouri State University, St. Joseph Open Door Food Kitchen, Project Homeless Connect, and at local shelters and treatment facilities. The CDC recommends everyone born between 1945–1965 be tested for Hepatitis C due to less rigorous medical practices and high infection rates in the past, 272 people tested for Hep C. HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis screening, testing, and select treatment. are also offered. Increased condom distribution was implemented to combat an increase in the spread of STI's. The program promoted the U=U campaign, informing the public about low viral load and the healthier outcomes for people with a positive HIV test result.

HIV Case Management

HIV Case Management served 87 individuals living with HIV in 15 NWMO counties in 2019. One aspect of HIV Case Management is linking individual living with HIV to medical care. Our case managers were successful in linking 91.67% to medical care. Another component of case management is ensuring clients have access to affordable medical care. To that end, 100% of eligible clients were enrolled to take advantage of the benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

Mental Health First Aid

In 2019, three Mental Health First Aid classes were provided to Public Safety students at the Law Enforcement Academy at Missouri Western State University. Youth Mental Health First Aid classes were provided at Area Health Education Centers (AHEC), Central High School, and MidCity Excellence. The St. Joseph Medical Reserve Corps funding supports building resilience in adults and youth by strengthening the mental health response of our community. The City



of St. Joseph Health Department has trained 565 persons in Adult or Youth Mental Health First Aid from its first course in July of 2014 through 2019. Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches a person how to identify, understand and respond to signs of Mental illness and substance use disorder.



The National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) invited **Kelly Kibirige**, **RN** to present a session "Why Mental Health First Aid Makes Sense for Preparedness, Response and Recovery", for the 2019 National Preparedness Summit in St. Louis, Missouri on March 26-29, 2019. Kelly is the supervisor of the Community Health Services division of the health department and also coordinates the activities of the Northwest Missouri Medical Reserve Corp (MRC). Kelly has been teaching Mental Health First Aid since 2014. Kelly presented with Rachael Taube who is the Project Director for Mental Health First Aid at the Missouri Institute of Mental Health through the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (MCH)

The City of St. Joseph Health Department Maternal and Child Health (MCH) grant focuses on preventing and reducing the impact of toxic stress and build resilience in adolescents' ages 15-19 years to prevent and reduce intentional injury related to substance use. The funding supports a variety of activities, including advocating for a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in Buchanan County (expanding on the City PDMP); supporting compliance checks for alcohol/tobacco sales; promoting Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) awareness and education; working with parent groups, youth organizations, child care facilities and the public to increase awareness; promote proper use of child passenger safety seats; "It Only Takes One" teen driver education; "First Impact" parent education; and marketing strategies. Through the grant, every elementary school student in Buchanan County schools participating in Red Ribbon Week activities was provided a new Red Ribbon Week pencil and schools received Red Ribbon Week banners and posters; schools were supplied outdoor signs for safe driving campaigns; we supported high school Drug Free Super STARs programs; and joined other partners to present "Docudrama" outreach events to regional high schools. Another growing component of this program is the development of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) awareness and training in our area. We have partnered with Jean West, school worker with the SJSD, to promote ACE's to schools, agencies and medical providers.





















St. Joe Fit

St. Joe FIT encourages people of all ages and physical abilities to get up, get out, and get fit! The health department, City of St. Joseph Parks, Recreation, & Civic Facilities Department and the Y.M.C.A. partnered to organize the free program. SJF saw a few changes in 2019: the look was updated; the season was split between the spring and fall, cutting out the hotter months; and the choice of distance - walkers could select a short, medium or longer walk. St. Joe FIT helps participants live a more active lifestyle, connect with friends who are committed to making healthy choices, mix up their fitness routine, and enjoy participating in the program!











Clinic staff consists of five Community Health Nurses, one of whom serves as supervisor.

Each nurse has a specific role and are all cross—trained for continuity of service.

The positions of Clinic Coordinator and WIC Coordinator streamline operations..

DATA		IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED	3,731	MONTHLY AVE KIDS/LEAD CASE MANAGEMENT	133
		FLU IMMUNIZATIONS	1,259	NEW EBLL 10+ CASES	23
		CHILDREN IMMUNIZED	1,429	NEW EBLL 5+ CASES	110
		CHILDREN MEDICAID/UN-/UNDER INSURED	1,361	GENERAL CONSULT/REFERRAL	133
SNAP		CHILDREN INSURED	68	NEW ACTIVE TB CASES	3
<u> </u>		ADULTS IMMUNIZED	1,287	ACTIVE TB CASE HOME VISITS	91
SHOT		ADULTS UN-/UNDER INSURED	916	PREGNANCY TESTS	213
CPR CLASSES	14	ADULTS INSURED	371	TEMPORARY MEDICAID ENROLLMENTS	288
CPR ATTENDEES	37	CHILDCARE PROVIDER TRAININGS	10	NEW ENROLLS WOMEN/PREG CASE MANAGEMENT	166

Prenatal Case Management

Our prenatal case manager works closely with MOSAIC Life Care Women's Health to help our prenatal care appointments for our mutual clients. In 2019, the program gave 213 pregnancy tests and on average served 84 women in prenatal case management each month. The prenatal case management nurse helped 288 women enroll in Temporary Medicaid, giving pregnant women access to important prenatal care.



CPR/AED/First Aid Classes

The clinic offers American Heart Association Heartsaver® CPR/AED and Heartsaver® First Aid classes monthly at the department. Classes held on the third Wednesday of the month are open to the public. In 2019, 14 class sessions trained 37 people to become certified.



The Lead Case Manager provides the most current guidance regarding screening, testing and referrals. The department partnered with community agencies, child care centers, physician offices, the area realtors association, schools and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to increase awareness. Children in case management in 2019 averaged 133 per month.









Flood Response & Tetanus Vaccine

Clinic nurses gave 124 doses of Tdap (a combination vaccine for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) in March and April as a response to devastating flooding to the region. March 26 the nurses provided a full day of clinics for city employees, rotating to four locations; City Hall, Fire Headquarters, Parks & Rec Admin building, and the Law Enforcement Center. City staff and citizens also came into the clinic for Tdap vaccine.







Immunizations

The month of August is always a busy time for the City of St. Joseph Health Department. Due to Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requirements, local public health departments are called upon to provide services to students returning to school. The health department provides certified copies of Missouri birth records for new students. Students entering kindergarten, 8th & 12th grade and college need vaccine boosters. In 2019, the clinic saw 566 children and 34 adults in August, gave 1,391 immunizations and registered those shot records into Missouri's immunization data base to give other providers across Missouri access to each patients vaccine history.

At our Annual Public Flu Clinic we gave 260 flu doses; 1,259 flu vaccines were given in 2019. The City of St. Joseph provides annual flu shots for employees and in 2019 the health department nurses administered the flu vaccine. We gave 184 shots to City staff.

The City of St. Joseph Health Department ordered 3,300 vaccine for the past monitoring cycle at a value of \$158,398.57. In that time period, only one vaccine was wasted (due to a faulty syringe).

Monitoring Communicable Disease

Clinic nurses monitor and provide follow-up on reports of communicable disease, including tuberculosis (TB). 543 Tuberculin skin test screenings were administered by clinic nurses, typically for employment purposes. The clinic responded to 133 communicable disease reports with investigation and follow-up. Health department nurses are a valued resource and referral source for the prevention, control and containment of communicable diseases for health care professionals and the community. Clinic nurses were called upon to provide Tuberculosis information and work with physician offices and patients to ensure medication compliance. 91 in-home visits with TB clients were completed to ensure medication compliance. Electronic Direct Observed Therapy was introduced in 2019, allowing for more efficiency.







Clinic and support staff prepare for Back to School and for Flu Clinic

WOMEN INFANTS AND CHILDREN WIC

The Women, Infants and Children, or WIC, division of the City of St. Joseph Health Department has a staff of ten that served 20,159 participants in 2019. WIC staff consists of five Nutritionists, two Certifiers, and three Breastfeeding Peer Counselors.





Families receiving WIC services learn about nutrition and health, and food packages are tailored to the specific health needs of each participant. Checks (redeemable vouchers) are issued and used to purchase healthy foods approved by federal WIC guidelines. In 2019, \$2,116,951 was issued in checks for the purpose of purchasing healthy foods from local grocery stores.

WIC participants may qualify as adults if they are pregnant, post-partum or breastfeeding. A mother receives benefits until her baby is one year old if she is breastfeeding. Children participate until age five. WIC teaches nutritional impacts on health in personal counseling, WIChealth.org and classes. WIC also makes referrals for medical and community services. In an effort to minimize client obstacles and increase WIC accessibility, walk-in services are offered in addition to the scheduled appointments.

WIC was responsible for maintaining the City of St.
Joseph Health Department's status as a Breastfeeding
Friendly Worksite. In addition, WIC offered technical
support and encouraged area businesses to apply for
Breastfeeding Friendly Worksite awards. St. Joseph now
has 17 Breastfeeding Friendly Worksites and three
Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Centers.





WIC CLIENTS SERVED - MONTHLY AVERAGE:

WOMEN - PREGNANT **WOMEN - FULLY BREASTFEEDING** 48 **WOMEN - PARTIALLY BREASTFEEDING** 49 WOMEN - POSTPARTUM NON-BF 172 **INFANTS - FULLY BREASTFEEDING** 53 INFANTS - PARTIALLY BREASTFEEDING 43 INFANTS - FULLY FORMULA FED 402 CHILDREN SERVED 744 CERTIFICATION OF NEW CLIENTS 77 WALK-IN CLIENTS SERVED 64

SPANISH SPEAKING CLIENTS 243



BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR PROGRAM:

NEW ENROLLMENTS 30
INDIVIDUALS SERVED 241
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES 8+
CLASS ATTENDANCE 43

WIC CHECKS ISSUED 2015-2019

VALUED AT \$11,544,662

INTO OUR LOCAL ECONOMY



2019 VALUE OF CHECKS ISSUED \$2,116,951 AVE # OF CHECKS ISSUED MONTHLY 7.305











Outreach activities organized by the WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselors

WIC employs Breast Feeding Peer Counselors (BFPC's) to provide support to WIC mothers who choose breastfeeding. They manage and organize breastfeeding education and outreach which includes speaking at area schools, Parents as Teachers, Health Advisory Council, and other community programs. They help manage a peer support group with Mosaic Life Care. The peer counselors are also responsible for coordinating all events related to World Breastfeeding Week/Month in August.

Breastfeeding classes are taught nine times weekly, covering benefits, support team and infant care, pumping and storage, and baby basics. Class is taught in Spanish on Wednesday. BFPC's are in the office daily and available by phone 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Breastfeeding Coordinator and BFPC's serve on a St. Joseph Breastfeeding Task Force that works to promote breastfeeding in our community.

August is World Breastfeeding Month. St. Joseph WIC celebrated our expecting and breastfeeding moms with activities to show St. Joseph supports breastfeeding mothers and to help normalize breastfeeding within our community. The World Breastfeeding Week theme was "Educate, Encourage, Empower!". WIC recognized two Breastfeeding Champions, selected by our community of moms. Our 2019 recipients were OB/MIdWife Casey Wagner, CNM of Mosaic Life Care Women's Health and Pediatrics/Family Practitioner Debra White, FNP of Mosaic Life Care Internal Medicine



Breastfeeding Friendly Award to Mitchell Park Child Care



Breastfeeding Champion Casey Wagner, CNM



Breastfeeding Champion Debra White , FNP

ANIMAL CONTROL & RESCUE

Animal Control & Rescue staff includes the Manager, an Office Coordinator, a Humane Educator, a Senior Animal Control Officer, three Animal Care Specialists, and six Animal Control Officers.

The animal shelter experienced a 20% increase in dog intakes and 24% increase in cat intakes 2019. Shelter staff worked in conjunction with the St. Joseph Friends of the Animal Shelter, Inc. using creative marketing and funding adoption specials to promote shelter animals adoptions. The shelter did increase dog adoptions by 23% (191 more dogs) and cat adoptions by 12% (94 more cats). Although the shelters dog adoption increase matched the increase in intake, the cat adoption rate did not increase enough to sustain intake. Shelter staff and the Friends of the Shelter continue to develop programs and incentives that can save the lives of more animals and increase spaying and neutering. These challenges facing staff are addressed with cross training and counting on Friends of the Shelter volunteers.

The animal shelter was awarded an adoption incentive grant in the amount of \$63,500.00 from Petsmart Charities. The grant was designed to fund the spay and neuter of shelter animals to decrease the adoption prices of dogs and cats through 2019. The grant supported 1,308 discounted adoptions to the community, spaying and neutering 644 dogs and 664 cats.

The shelter partnered with Boehringer Ingelheim in January 2019 for the Partners in Protection shelter program. Boehringer Ingelheim supplies the shelter with flea control and heartworm treatment for shelter pets. When the pet is adopted, new owners are notified of the products an animal received and are provided coupons and literature. The partnership allows shelter staff to improve the care of shelter animals by treating all cats and dogs for fleas and all dogs to be tested (and treated if indicated) for heartworms upon intake.













Held August 9th, 2019, FOTAS held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Corporate Drive location, future home of the new animal shelter. After many fundraisers, it was time to celebrate the purchase of the building. In addition to the ribbon cutting, St. Joseph ACR set up an adoption event with the Rescue Trailer. The public were able to adopt animals and a couple dogs and cats found forever homes during the event.









1,566	DOG INTAKE	7,234	FIELD ACTIVITY - COMPLAINT CALLS
406	DOGS REDEEMED	1,167	FIELD ACTIVITY - SUMMONS ISSUED
858	DOGS ADOPTED	80	PUPPIES FOR PAROLE GRADS
213	DOGS EUTHANIZED/DIED	117	PUPPIES FOR PAROLE ADOPTED
1,662	CAT INTAKE	136	SPAY/NEUTER ASSIST (ANIMAL KIND)
25	CATS REDEEMED	5	GIRL SCOUT PROGRAMS
785	CATS ADOPTED	722	DOG PARK MEMBERSHIPS
802	CATS EUTHANIZED/DIED	123	MEDIA INTERVIEWS

In March of 2019, farms, homes and towns all along the Missouri River experienced record levels of flooding. Levees were overtopped or destroyed. The interstate closed, crops were lost and homes were filled with muck and sludge. Missouri Gov. Mike Parson declared a disaster. The flooding caused more than \$3 billion in damage.

The St. Joseph Animal Shelter, located on Lower Lake Road, anticipated flooding to the facility. All animals were transported to safety via the emergency response trailer, AC&R trucks and even personal vehicles. The Friends of the Animal Shelter (FOTAS) volunteers had acquired a building, where FOTAS volunteers and AC&R staff worked through the night to set up temporary housing for the shelter pets. They remained on site for the next few days until the evacuation order was lifted. Staff and volunteers worked resourcefully and diligently to keep the animals clean, happy and healthy. Support from the community came in the way of individuals and families coming out to clean, feed, water and socialize the animals on site. Over 350 new volunteers signed up in just a few short days.





















Donations by corporate sponsors not only provided essential supplies, they also alleviated the burden of transporting those supplies from the shelter and we'd like to acknowledge their generosity: Lowe's Home Improvement for trash cans and liners; Nestle Purina for bags of food and litter; UPCO Wholesale Pet Supplies Right to Your Door for litter and food bowls; Bright Disposal Services for dumpster and disposal services; Price Chopper for jugs of water.

The City of St. Joseph Health Department Animal Control & Rescue rescue trailer is designed to offer temporary housing for animals during an emergency. The trailer was used by displaced families who needed a place to leave their pets as they evacuated their homes. It was stationed at Hyde Park and provided shelter for 14 pets impacted by the flooding. Volunteers were vital to Animal Control & Shelter operations as staff took on the additional mission of caring for pets from our neighboring communities in Kansas until they were able to safely return home.

St. Joseph Friends of the Animal Shelter

Shelter staff and volunteers worked throughout the year to revitalize the Friends of the Shelter Volunteer Program. Jennifer Lockwood, Humane Educator and Holly Bowie, Manager, worked with a core group of volunteers to develop a structured and sustainable program. The new program is staff driven and includes an orientation manual, animal handling training, and specific assignments. Animal Handling training course levels one and two were developed by Jennifer Lockwood and Officer Logan Baum. Upon the launch of the new program, planned for March 2020, all volunteers will take Animal Handling 101 prior to being releases into their roles. Training hours and roles will be tracked using volunteer software. Staff and volunteers are confident the program will increase volunteer involvement in shelter activities and foster stronger relationships between the two groups.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Senior Animal Control Officer Stephen Norman received the John Rhodes award from the Missouri Animal Control Association. This prestigious award is presented to the animal care and control/welfare professional who consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty and sets the example for peers. Those who are awarded the John Rhodes Award exemplify animal care and control profession through years of dedicated, professional service to their community and the profession; or have made great changes which impact and better our profession state-wide or beyond.





Punzo received the Paws for Applause in 2019 from the Missouri Animal Control Association. The Paws for Applause award is presented to a "friend of Animal Welfare in Missouri," who has given of themselves as a volunteer, a donor or some similar activity, in a manner which makes a substantial improvement in animal control/welfare.

Established in 2007, the United Way of Greater St. Joseph Outstanding Volunteer Award honored **Health Department Director Debra Bradley** in 2019 for outstanding volunteer service. Debra Bradley began serving in February 2011 and has held a variety of leadership roles including chairing the board of directors. Throughout Debra's tenure she has served in almost every area of work: campaign, unmet needs, Success By 6, Strategic Planning, Reading Adventure, Nominating, Leadership St. Joseph, Finance, Allocations and the Executive Committee.





Senior Animal Control Officer Stephen Norman graduated from Leadership St. Joseph in December of 2019. United Way Leadership St. Joseph is an annual, yearlong leadership development program for adults who live or work in the St. Joseph area. This program creates a network of trained individuals who are willing to engage in leadership and community courses while cultivating unique skills and an enhanced knowledge of this community's opportunities, realities, and challenges.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Staff serve on various boards such as, but not limited to the United Way, including Success by Six, Unmet Needs, Allocations, Housing Stability Taskforce and Leadership St. Joseph. Other groups include Buchanan County Community Organizations Active in Disaster, Crisis Intervention Team Council of Northwest Missouri, Drug Free Community Coalition, Local Emergency Planning Committee, KCMO Branch of International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), IAAP Influencer 2018-19, Region H Healthcare Coalition, PEACE, Children/Youth Disaster: Pediatric Behavioral Health Work Group, MO Animal Control Association, Community Drug Council, NWMO Coalition for Roadway Safety, Opioid Task Force as well as others.